



The Nord Center

Comprehensive Behavioral Healthcare

January 17, 2005

Steven K. Galson, MD
Acting Director
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
FAX 301-594-6197

Dear Dr. Galson:

We strongly urge you to accept the application by Barr Laboratories to make Plan B emergency contraception available over-the counter.

As nurses of the Sexual Assault Care Unit of the Nord Center in Lorain, Ohio, we regularly encounter women who have been victims of sexual assault. We recognize that this is a traumatic time that affects the ability of a woman to make all necessary decisions for herself in a short amount of time. Access to over-the-counter Plan B for emergency contraception would offer another option to a woman who may not have had access to rape crisis services or been able to make decisions about her own well-being.

Increasing the availability of emergency contraception would enhance the sensitive response needed to our patients. It would be particularly helpful to those women who are unable to seek rape crisis services.

Thank you for your support of women's health. We urge you to approve over-the-counter access to emergency contraception.

Sincerely,

Jill McCallum MSN CNM
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A Member of The Mental Health Network of Lorain County